

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A control system comprising an information processing apparatus and an information terminal connected with each other via a network,

the information terminal comprising

request means for, in a state in which a device is connected with the information terminal, requesting the information processing apparatus to establish communication via the network;

receiving means for receiving a packet including a command for controlling the device, from the information processing apparatus via communication established in response to the request issued by the request means; and

control means for controlling the device in accordance with the command included in the packet received by the receiving means,

the information processing apparatus comprising

establishment means for establishing communication performed via the network between the information processing apparatus and the information terminal, in response to the request issued by the information terminal; and

transmission means for transmitting the packet to the information terminal from the information processing apparatus after the communication with the information

terminal is established by the establishment means.

2. A control method for controlling a control system comprising an information processing apparatus and an information terminal connected with each other via a network, the method comprising an information processing method associated with the information terminal and an information processing method associated with the information processing apparatus,

the information processing method associated with the information terminal comprising the steps of:

in a state in which a device is connected with the information terminal, requesting the information processing apparatus to establish communication via the network;

receiving a packet including a command for controlling the device, from the information processing apparatus via communication established in response to the request issued in the request step; and

controlling the device in accordance with the command included in the packet received in the reception step,

the information processing method associated with the information processing apparatus comprising the steps of:

establishing communication performed via the network between the information processing apparatus and the

information terminal, in response to the request issued by the information terminal; and

transmitting the packet to the information terminal from the information processing apparatus after the communication with the information terminal is established in the establishment step.

3. An information processing apparatus for controlling a device connected with an information terminal with a particular timing via the information terminal connected via a network with the information processing apparatus, the information processing apparatus comprising:

establishment means for establishing communication performed via the network between the information processing apparatus and the information terminal, in response to a request issued, in a state in which the device is connected with the information terminal, by the information terminal; and

transmission means for transmitting a first packet including a command for controlling the device to the information terminal from the information processing apparatus after the communication with the information terminal is established by the establishment means.

4. An information processing apparatus according to

claim 3, further comprising receiving means for receiving, from the information terminal, a second packet including a response to the command transmitted from the transmission means.

5. An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the command includes information indicating whether, when the information terminal fails to perform a process in accordance with the command, a process should be continued in accordance with a following command.

6. An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the first packet transmitted by the transmission means includes a plurality of commands belonging to the same protocol.

7. An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the transmission means transmits, together with the first packet, a simple program for causing the information terminal to determine which process should be performed by the device.

8. An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the first packet transmitted by the transmission means includes identification information

identifying the device to be controlled in accordance with the command.

9. An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein when the communication link established by the establishment means includes a firewall of the information terminal, the transmission means transmits the first packet using HTTP as a communication protocol.

10. An information processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the transmission means maintains the communication link using HTTP established by the establishment means for a period during which a plurality of first packets are transmitted.

11. An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising command means for commanding the information terminal to start transmitting predetermined information in the communication established by the establishment means.

12. An information processing method for an information processing apparatus to control a device connected with an information terminal with a particular timing via the information terminal connected via a network

with the information processing apparatus, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing communication performed via the network between the information processing apparatus and the information terminal, in response to a request issued, in a state in which the device is connected with the information terminal, by the information terminal; and

transmitting a packet including a command for controlling the device to the information terminal from the information processing apparatus after the communication with the information terminal is established in the establishment step.

13. A storage medium including a computer-readable program stored thereon for causing a computer to perform a process of controlling a device connected with an information terminal with a particular timing via the information terminal connected via a network with the computer, the program comprising the steps of:

establishing communication performed via the network between the information processing apparatus and the information terminal, in response to a request issued, in a state in which the device is connected with the information terminal, by the information terminal; and

transmitting a packet including a command for

controlling the device to the information terminal from the information processing apparatus after the communication with the information terminal is established in the establishment step.

14. A program for causing a computer to perform a process of controlling a device connected with an information terminal with a particular timing via the information terminal connected via a network with the computer, the program comprising the steps of:

establishing communication performed via the network between the information processing apparatus and the information terminal, in response to a request issued, in a state in which the device is connected with the information terminal, by the information terminal; and

transmitting a packet including a command for controlling the device to the information terminal from the information processing apparatus after the communication with the information terminal is established in the establishment step.

15. An information terminal connected via a network with an information processing apparatus for remotely controlling a device, comprising:

request means for, in a state in which the device is

connected with the information terminal, requesting the information processing apparatus to establish communication via the network;

receiving means for receiving a first packet including a command for controlling the device, from the information processing apparatus via communication established in response to the request issued by the request means; and

control means for controlling the device in accordance with the command included in the first packet received by the receiving means.

16. An information terminal according to claim 15, further comprising transmission means for transmitting to the information processing apparatus a second packet including a response indicating a result of controlling performed by the control means on the device.

17. An information processing method for an information terminal connected via a network with an information processing apparatus for remotely controlling a device, the method comprising the steps of:

in a state in which the device is connected with the information terminal, requesting the information processing apparatus to establish communication via the network;

receiving a packet including a command for controlling

the device, from the information processing apparatus via communication established in response to the request issued in the request step; and

controlling the device in accordance with the command included in the packet received in the reception step.

18. A storage medium including a computer-readable program stored thereon for causing a computer to perform information processing performed between the computer and an information processing apparatus for remotely controlling a device, the program comprising the steps of:

in a state in which the device is connected with the information terminal, requesting the information processing apparatus to establish communication via the network;

receiving a packet including a command for controlling the device, from the information processing apparatus via communication established in response to the request issued in the request step; and

controlling the device in accordance with the command included in the packet received in the reception step.

19. A program for causing a computer to perform information processing performed between the computer and an information processing apparatus for remotely controlling a device, the program comprising the steps of:

in a state in which the device is connected with the information terminal, requesting the information processing apparatus to establish communication via the network;

receiving a packet including a command for controlling the device, from the information processing apparatus via communication established in response to the request issued in the request step; and

controlling the device in accordance with the command included in the packet received in the reception step.